

UNCLASSIFIED

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

RELEASED IN FULL

PAGE 01 KIGALI 05379 01 OF 02 311456Z
 ACTION DS-00

| | | | | | | | |
|------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| INFO | LOG-00 | AF-01 | AID-01 | A-01 | CA-02 | CCO-00 | CIAE-00 |
| | CTME-00 | C-01 | OASY-00 | DODE-00 | EUR-01 | FBO-01 | HA-09 |
| | H-01 | IMMC-01 | INRE-00 | INR-01 | L-03 | ADS-00 | M-01 |
| | NSAE-00 | NSCE-00 | OCS-06 | OMB-01 | OPR-01 | PA-01 | PM-02 |
| | PRS-01 | P-01 | SCT-03 | SNP-00 | SP-00 | SR-00 | SSO-00 |
| | SS-00 | TRSE-00 | T-01 | USIE-00 | USSS-00 | ASDS-01 | RPE-00 |
| | /042W | | | | | | |

-----8BF88A 311457Z /38

P 311427Z DEC 92
 FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2644
 INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
 AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
 AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
 AMEMBASSY PARIS
 AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
 AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 KIGALI 05379

DEPT FOR DS/I/CT AND AF/C

E.O. 12356: N/A
 TAGS: PINS, ASEC, CASC, PGOV, RW
 SUBJECT: PARTY DEMONSTRATIONS BLOCK ROADS, BOTTLE UP
 KIGALI; ETHNIC VIOLENCE IN GISENYI PREFECTURE
 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 KIGALI 05379 01 OF 02 311456Z

REF: KIGALI 5341

1. SUMMARY: NEW YEARS EVE DAY SAW WIDESPREAD
 DEMONSTRATIONS BY THE CDR AND MRND PARTIES IN KIGALI
 AND ELSEWHERE. ALL ROADS OUT OF KIGALI WERE
 BLOCKED. ETHNIC VIOLENCE BROKE OUT IN GISENYI
 PREFECTURE DEC. 28, 29, AND 30. ALL AMCITS ARE
 SAFE. END SUMMARY.

DEMONSTRATIONS PARALYZE INTREPREFECTORAL TRANSPORT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: CHARLES L DARIS
 DATE/CASE ID: 01 OCT 2008 200103014

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

2. THE CDR AND MRND PARTIES HELD UNAUTHORIZED DEMONSTRATIONS IN KIGALI, GISENYI, KIBUNGO, BYUMBA AND RUHENERI PREFECTURES ON 31 DEC. THEIR PRINCIPAL ACTIONS CONSISTED OF BLOCKING ALL ROADS LEADING OUT OF KIGALI, AS WELL AS THE ROADS INTO RUHENERI AND GISENYI TOWNS. BY SETTING UP A SINGLE ROADBLOCK AT THE FORK IN THE ROAD LEADING OUT OF KIGALI TOWARD RUHENERI AND BUTARE, THE PARTIES EFFECTIVELY CUT THE CAPITAL OFF FROM BUTARE, CYANGUGU, GIKONGORO, GITARAMA, GISENYI, KIBUYE, AND RUHENERI PREFECTURES. ROAD BLOCKS WERE ALSO SET UP OUTSIDE OF TOWN ON THE ROADS TO BYUMBA AND KIBUNGO PREFECTURES. THUS, NO TRANSPORT WAS ABLE TO ENTER KIGALI FROM ANY OF THE OUTLYING PREFECTURES.

3. THERE ARE NO REPORTS OF VIOLENCE, ALTHOUGH MOTORISTS, INCLUDING FRENCH CITIZENS, REPORT HAVING MONEY AND VALUABLES TAKEN FROM THEM AT ROAD BLOCKS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 KIGALI 05379 01 OF 02 311456Z BEFORE BEING ALLOWED TO TURN BACK. GENDARMES IN RIOT GEAR ARE AT THE ROAD BLOCK SITES AROUND KIGALI; PRESUMABLY TO KEEP THE SITUATION FROM GETTING OUT OF HAND, BUT NOT TO END IT. ADDITIONAL GENDARME PATROLS ARE CONTROLLING THE MAIN ARTERIES WITHIN THE CITY, APPARENTLY SCREENING IN-TOWN TRAFFIC.

4. THE OFFICE OF THE CDR PARTY STATED THAT THIS COUNTRY-WIDE ACTION WAS MEANT AS A SHOW OF FORCE, TO GRAPHICALLY ILLUSTRATE THE PARTY'S POWER, AND TO INDICATE THAT ITS VIEWS MUST BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION IN BOTH THE INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL NEGOTIATIONS UNDERWAY. THIS DISPLAY OF POWER IS ALSO MEANT TO BOLSTER THE CDR'S CLAIM TO POSITIONS IN THE TRANSITION GOVERNMENT. THE MRND AND CDR PARTIES ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE EXPLAINING IN GREATER DETAIL THEIR ACTIONS (TO BE REPORTED SEPTEL).

5. AS OF 1500 HRS LOCAL THE ROAD BLOCKS WERE STILL IN PLACE. IT IS UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME WHEN THIS SHOW OF FORCE WILL END, IN SPITE OF A COMMITMENT BY THE MRND GENERAL SECRETARY, MADE TO BOTH THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE AMBASSADOR, THAT THE BLOCKS WOULD BE CLEARED BY NOON. POST'S LOCAL GUARD CONTRACTOR

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

STATES THAT THERE ARE THREE, POSSIBLY FOUR FLAT BED TRUCKS FULL OF ROCKS AND BOULDERS PARKED AT THE BLOCK ON THE RUHENERI/BUTARE ROAD, SEEMING TO INDICATE AN INTENTION TO CREATE A RATHER SOLID BARRIER ON THAT ROAD. THE PRIME MINISTER STATED THAT THE DEMONSTRATORS HAVE PROVISIONS WITH THEM FOR AS MANY AS SIX DAYS, AND ARE PREPARED FOR A LONG "SIEGE." HE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 KIGALI 05379 01 OF 02 311456Z
HAS CALLED ON ALL OPPOSITION PARTIES TO NOT RESPOND TO THE DEMONSTRATIONS.

ETHNIC VIOLENCE IN GISENYI PREFECTURE

6. RADIO RWANDA REPORTED ON DEC 30 THAT AN OUTBREAK OF ETHNIC VIOLENCE HAD OCCURED IN KANAMA, GASEKE, AND KAYOVE COMMUNES IN GISENYI PREFECTURE, ALL AROUND THE GISHWATI FOREST RESERVE. THE PREFECTURE IN GISENYI CONFIRMED TO EMBASSY THAT BAGOGWE TUTSI WERE THE VICTIMS OF HOUSE BURNINGS, LIVESTOCK KILLINGS, AND PERSONAL VIOLENCE. NO DEATHS ARE REPORTED; UP TO 140 PEOPLE FROM ONE COMMUNE -- PROBABLY GASEKE -- HAVE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 KIGALI 05379 02 OF 02 311500Z
ACTION DS-00

| INFO | LOG-00 | AF-01 | AID-01 | A-01 | CA-02 | CCO-00 | CIAE-00 |
|------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|---------|
| | CTME-00 | C-01 | OASY-00 | DODE-00 | EUR-01 | FBO-01 | HA-09 |
| | H-01 | IMMC-01 | INRE-00 | INR-01 | L-03 | ADS-00 | M-01 |
| | NSAE-00 | NSCE-00 | OCS-06 | OMB-01 | OPR-01 | PA-01 | PM-02 |

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PRS-01 P-01 SCT-03 SNP-00 SP-00 SR-00 SSO-00
SS-00 SVC-00 TRSE-00 T-01 USIE-00 USSS-00 ASDS-01
RPE-00 /042W

-----8C02B9 311643Z /49

P 311427Z DEC 92
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2645
INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 KIGALI 05379

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PINS, ASEC, CASC, PGOV, RW
SUBJECT: PARTY DEMONSTRATIONS BLOCK ROADS, BOTTLE UP
KIGALI, ETHNIC VIOLENCE IN GISENYI PREFECTURE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 KIGALI 05379 02 OF 02 311500Z
DEPT FOR DS/I/CT AND AE/C (#) DEMONTRATION BLOCK ROAD, BOTTLE UP
SOUGHT REFUGE IN CHURCH COMPOUNDS.

7. IN KAYOVE, CALM WAS RESTORED BY TUESDAY MORNING,
VIA THE DIRECT INTERVENTION OF THE PREFET OF GISENYI
(A KAYOVE NATIVE). HOWEVER, THE PREFECTURE INFORMED
POST THAT VIOLENCE IN KANAMA AND GASEKE CONTINUED
THROUGH DEC. 30; GENDARMES ARE TO BE SENT TO THESE
TWO COMMUNES, AS WELL AS THE MORE SOUTHERN GISENYI
COMMUNES OF SATINSYI, RAMBA, AND KIBILIRA IN THE
COURSE OF DEC. 31.

8. THE REPORTED CAUSE OF THESE ATTACKS IS AS
FOLLOWS: THE POPULATIONS OF THE COMMUNES AROUND
GISHWATI FOREST WERE CALLED BY THE PREFECTURE TO CUT
OUT THE UNDERBRUSH IN GISHWATI FOREST, IN ORDER TO
DENY A HIDING PLACE TO BANDITS AND BRIGANDS WHO WERE
CREATING A CLIMATE OF INSECURITY IN THE AREA. WHEN
THE HUTU POPULATION ARRIVED TO DO THEIR COMMUNITY
DUTY, THEY FOUND THAT THE BAGOGWE POPULATION HAD NOT

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

RESPONDED TO THE CALL. THE HUTU TOOK THIS AS EVIDENCE THAT THE BAGOGWE WERE IN CAHOOTS WITH THE BRIGANDS, AND BEGAN ATTACKING THEIR NEIGHBORS. NONE OF THIS STORY CAN BE CONFIRMED, ALTHOUGH THE PRIME MINISTER HAS RECOUNTED A SIMILAR EXPLANATION TO THE AMBASSADOR

COMMENT

9. FOLLOWING ON THE HEELS OF THE BOMBS SET OFF ON
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 KIGALI 05379 02 OF 02 311500Z
CHRISTMAS DAY (REFTEL), THESE DEMONSTRATIONS HAVE PUSHED THE LEVEL OF TENSION IN THE COUNTRY TO A NEW LEVEL. RWANDANS ARE PLANNING A VERY QUIET NEW YEAR'S EVE; MOST SAY THAT THEY WILL AVOID PUBLIC PLACES SUCH AS BARS, RESTAURANTS, AND DANCE SPOTS, FEARING A REPEAT OF THE DEC. 25 BOMBING OF THE A KIGALI NIGHT CLUB. THE ALWAYS HYPERACTIVE KIGALI RUMOR IS IN OVERDRIVE, WITH APPOCALYPTIC STORIES OF AN IMPENDING MASSACRE OF TUTSIS MAKING THE ROUNDS.

8. POST HELD A COMMUNITY MEETING ON SECURITY CONCERN ON DEC. 31. THE GENERAL FEELING AMONG AMERICAN DIRECT HIRES, CONTRACTORS, AND NGOS IS THAT A HEIGHTENED AWARENESS IS CALLED FOR. THE COMMUNITY HAS BEEN ADVISED, AND HAS AGREED, TO STAY AWAY FROM PUBLIC PLACES FOR THE TIME BEING, INCLUDING TONIGHT, NEW YEAR'S EVE. SEVERAL VACATION TRIPS OUTSIDE OF KIGALI HAVE BEEN CANCELLED OR POSTPONED. POST WILL MONITOR THE SITUATION CLOSELY. ALL AMCITS ARE SAFE.
END COMMENT.

FLATEN

NOTE: (#) OMISSIONS. CORRECTIONS TO FOLLOW.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

UNCLASSIFIED